VOL. VIII. NUMB. 581.

The SPECTATOR.

Sunt bona, ſunt quædam Mediocria, ſunt mala plura
Quæ legis.——— Mart.

MONDAY, *Auguſt* 16. 1714.

I Am at preſent ſitting with a Heap of Letters before me, which I have received under the Character of SPECTATOR; I have Complaints from Lovers, Schemes from Projectors, Scandal from Ladies, Congratulations, Compliments, and Advice in abundance.

I have not been thus long an Author, to be inſenſible of the natural Fondneſs every Perſon muſt have for their own Productions; and I begin to think I have treated my Correſpondents a little too uncivilly in Stringing them all together on a File, and letting them ye ſo long unregarded. I ſhall therefore, for the future, think my ſelf at leaſt obliged to take ſome Notice of ſuch Letters as I receive, and may poſſibly do it at the end of every Month.

In the mean time, I intend my preſent Paper as a ſhort Anſwer to moſt of thoſe which have been already ſent me.

The Publick however is not to expect I ſhould let them into all my Secrets, and though I appear abſtruſe to moſt People, it is ſufficient if I am underſtood by my particular Correſpondents.

My Well-wiſher *Van Nath* is very arch, but not quite enough ſo to appear in Print.

Phyladelphus will, in a little time, ſee his Query fully anſwered by a Treatiſe which is now in the Preſs.

It was very improper at that time to comply with Mr. *G.*

(Price Two Pence.)

Miſs *Kitty* muſt excuſe me.

The Gentleman who ſent me a Copy of Verſes on his Miſtreſſes Dancing, is I believe too thoroughly in Love to compoſe correctly.

I have too great a Reſpect for both the Univerſities, to Praiſe one at the Expence of the other.

Tom Nimble is a very honeſt Fellow, and I deſire him to preſent my Humble Service to his Couſin *Fill. Bumper.*

I am obliged for the Letter upon Prejudice.

I may in due time animadvert on the Caſe of *Grace Grumble.*

The Petition of *P. S. granted.*

That of *Sarah Loveit. refuſed.*

The Papers of *A. S.* are returned.

I thank *Ariſtippus* for his kind Invitation.

My Friend at *Woodſtock* is a bold Man, to undertake for all within Ten Miles of him.

I am afraid the Entertainment of *Tom Turnover* will hardly be reliſhed by the good Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter.*

I muſt conſider further of it, before I indulge *W. F.* in thoſe Freedoms he takes with the Lady's Stockings.

I am obliged to the Ingenious Gentleman, who ſent me an Ode on the Subject of a late SPECTATOR, and ſhall take particular Notice of his laſt Letter.

When the Lady who wrote me a Letter, dated *July* the 20th, in Relation to ſome Paſſages in a *Lover*, will be more particular in her Directions, I ſhall be ſo in my Anſwer.

The poor Gentleman, who fancies my Writings could reclaim an Husband who can abuſe ſuch a Wife as he deſcribes, has I am afraid too great an Opinion of my Skill.

Philanthropos is, I dare ſay, a very well-meaning Man, but is a little too prolix in his Compoſitions.

Conſtantius himſelf muſt be the beſt Judge in the Affair he mentions.

The Letter dated from *Lincoln* is receiv'd.

Arethuſa and her Friend may hear further from me.

Celia is a little too haſty.

Harriot is a good Girl, but muſt not Curtſie to Folks ſhe does not know.

I muſt ingeniouſly confeſs my Friend *Sampſon Bentſtaff* has quite puzzled me, and writ me a long Letter which I cannot comprehend one Word of.

Collidan muſt alſo explain what he means by his *Drigelling*.

I think it beneath my *Spectatorial* Dignity, to concern my ſelf in the Affair of the boild Dumpling.

I ſhall conſult ſome *Litterati* on the Project ſent me for the Diſcovery of the Longitude.

I know not how to conclude this Paper better, than by inſerting a couple of Letters which are really genuine, and which I look upon to be two of the ſmarteſt Pieces I have received from my Correſpondents of either Sex.

Brother SPEC.

'WHile you are ſurveying every Object that 'falls in your way, I am wholly taken up 'with one. Had that Sage, who demanded what 'Beauty was, lived to ſee the dear Angel I love, 'he would not have asked ſuch a Queſtion. 'Had another ſeen her, he would himſelf have 'loved the Perſon in whom Heaven has made Virtue viſible.; and were you your ſelf to be in her 'Company, you could never, with all your Lo-'quacity, ſay enough of her good Humour and 'Senſe. I ſend you the Outlines of a Picture, 'which I can no more finiſh than I can ſufficiently 'admire the dear Original. I am,

Your moſt Affectionate Brother,

Conſtantio Spec.

Good Mr. Pert,

'I Will allow you nothing till you reſolve me the 'following Queſtion. Pray what's the Reaſon 'that while you only talk now upon *Wednesdays*, '*Fridays* and *Mondays*, you pretend to be a greater 'Tatler, than when you ſpoke every Day as you formerly uſed to do? If this be your plunging out 'of your Taciturnity, pray let the length of your 'Speeches compenſate for the Scarceneſs of them.

I am,

Good Mr. Pert,

Your Admirer, if you will be long enough for Me,

Amanda Lovelength.

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